

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method, comprising the steps of:
2 receiving a test result variable code;
3 receiving a protocol choice corresponding to the test result variable code;
4 receiving a treatment code;
5 determining whether the treatment code corresponds to the protocol choice; and
6 storing the test result variable code, protocol choice and treatment code.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying a set of protocol choices
2 corresponding to the test result variable code, from which the protocol choice may be selected.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying a set of treatment codes
2 corresponding to the protocol choice, from which the treatment code may be selected .
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying a warning if the treatment code
2 does not correspond to the protocol choice.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving a justification for at least one
2 of the protocol choice and the treatment code.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the test result variable code, protocol choice, and treatment code
2 are stored in a data structure comprising:
3 a first code uniquely identifying a protocol grouping assigning priorities to one or more protocol
4 choices based on a range of one or more disease variable values;
5 a second code identifying a protocol choice selected from the protocol grouping and a
6 justification for selecting the protocol choice;
7 a third code identifying each procedure, diagnostic test, or treatment performed pursuant to the
8 protocol choice and a justification for selecting each respective procedure, diagnostic test, or
9 treatment; and
10 a fourth code defining a charge code for all procedures, diagnostic tests, and treatments
11 performed..

1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the test result variable code, protocol choice and treatment code
2 are analyzed for cost accounting and to determine clinical appropriateness.

1 8. A data processing system having at least a processor and an accessible memory, comprising:
2 circuitry for receiving a test result variable code;
3 circuitry for receiving a protocol choice corresponding to the test result variable code;
4 circuitry for receiving a treatment code;
5 circuitry for determining whether the treatment code corresponds to the protocol choice; and
6 circuitry for storing the test result variable code, protocol choice and treatment code.

1 9. The data processing system of claim 8, further comprising circuitry for displaying a set of
2 protocol choices corresponding to the test result variable code, from which the protocol choice
3 may be selected.

1 10. The data processing system of claim 8, further comprising circuitry for displaying a set of
2 treatment codes corresponding to the protocol choice, from which the treatment code may be
3 selected .

1 11. The data processing system of claim 8, further comprising circuitry for displaying a warning if
2 the treatment code does not correspond to the protocol choice.

1 12. The data processing system of claim 8, further comprising circuitry for receiving a justification
2 for at least one of the protocol choice and the treatment code.

1 13. The data processing system of claim 8, wherein the test result variable code, protocol choice, and
2 treatment code are stored in a data structure comprising:
3 a first code uniquely identifying a protocol grouping assigning priorities to one or more protocol
4 choices based on a range of one or more disease variable values;
5 a second code identifying a protocol choice selected from the protocol grouping and a
6 justification for selecting the protocol choice;
7 a third code identifying each procedure, diagnostic test, or treatment performed pursuant to the
8 protocol choice and a justification for selecting each respective procedure, diagnostic test, or
9 treatment; and
10 a fourth code defining a charge code for all procedures, diagnostic tests, and treatments
11 performed..

1 14. The data processing system of claim 8, wherein the test result variable code, protocol choice and
2 treatment code are analyzed for cost accounting and to determine clinical appropriateness.

1 15. A computer program product having computer-readable code in a computer-readable medium,
2 comprising:
3 instructions for receiving a test result variable code;
4 instructions for receiving a protocol choice corresponding to the test result variable code;
5 instructions for receiving a treatment code;
6 instructions for determining whether the treatment code corresponds to the protocol choice; and
7 instructions for storing the test result variable code, protocol choice and treatment code.

1 16. The computer program product of claim 15, further comprising instructions for displaying a set
2 of protocol choices corresponding to the test result variable code, from which the protocol
3 choice may be selected.

1 17. The computer program product of claim 15, further comprising instructions for displaying a set
2 of treatment codes corresponding to the protocol choice, from which the treatment code may be
3 selected .

1 18. The computer program product of claim 15, further comprising instructions for displaying a
2 warning if the treatment code does not correspond to the protocol choice.

1 19. The computer program product of claim 15, further comprising instructions for receiving a
2 justification for at least one of the protocol choice and the treatment code.

1 20. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the test result variable code, protocol
2 choice, and treatment code are stored in a data structure comprising:

3 a first code uniquely identifying a protocol grouping assigning priorities to one or more protocol
4 choices based on a range of one or more disease variable values;

5 a second code identifying a protocol choice selected from the protocol grouping and a
6 justification for selecting the protocol choice;

7 a third code identifying each procedure, diagnostic test, or treatment performed pursuant to the
8 protocol choice and a justification for selecting each respective procedure, diagnostic test, or
9 treatment; and

10 a fourth code defining a charge code for all procedures, diagnostic tests, and treatments
11 performed..